

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 EUR-25 RSC-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07

PA-04 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 SWF-02 IGA-02 AID-20

COME-00 EB-11 FRB-02 TRSE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12 CIEP-02

LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 STR-08 AGR-20 TAR-02 DRC-01 /258 W

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3728

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EO 11652: NA

TAGS: UNGA, EGEN, PK

SUBJECT: UNGA SPECIAL SESSION: PAKISTAN GENERAL DEBATE

STATEMENT APRIL 22

SUMMARY: PAKISTAN MINISTER OF FINANCE, PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT MUBASHIR HASAN GRAPHICALLY DESCRIBED PROBLEMS FACING WORLD'S POOR, STRESSING INEQUITABLE RETURN FOR LDC LABOR. HE SAID RESOURCES AND INCOME ARE BEING TRANSFERRED FROM UN-INDUSTRIALIZED WORLD AND CITED PRINCIPAL ELEMENTS OF THIS PROCESS. DEPLETION OF RESOURCES, HIGH COMMODITY PRICES, WASTE, DISARRAY OF MONETARY SYSTEM ARE ADDITIONAL PROBLEMS; THERE ANTAGONISM BETWEEN RICH AND POOR AS POOR SEE RICH BECOMING SO BY EXPROPRIATING FRUITS OF THEIR LABOR. HASAN SUGGESTING RESCHEDULING OF LDC DEBATE AND WELCOMED VARIOUS INITIATIVES TO AID LDC'S . WHILE SUPPORTING ANYTHING LEADING TO ENDURING SOLUTION, HE SAID LDC'S HIT BY COMMODITY PRICE INCREASES NEED IMMEDIATE AID. REFERRING TO TARIFFS, HASAN SUGGESTED THEY BE REFUNDED TO LDC'S . ALTHOUGH PROBLEMS APPEAR ECONOMIC, THEY ARE POLITICAL IN SUBSTANCE AND IT IMPERATIVE SOLUTION BE FOUND BASED ON UN PRINCIPLES. END SUMMARY.

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1. IN STATEMENT AT APR 22 GENERAL DEBATE, PAKISTAN

MINISTER OF FINANCE, PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT MUBASHIR HASAN GRAPHICALLY DESCRIBED POVERTY, HUNGER AND DISEASE AS LOT OF NON-INDUSTRIALIZED WORLD. HE REFERRED TO SAHELIAN DROUGHT AS ONE OF THE WORST TRAGEDIES IN CONTEMPORARY HISTORY. HE BEMOANED INCREASING TRANSFER OF RESOURCES FROM POOR TO RICH NATIONS. PRICES OF LDC EXPORTS ARE LOW, HE SAID, BECAUSE OF LOW WAGES AND LOW PROFITS. WHERE THESE GOODS COMPETE WITH DEVELOPED COUNTRIES' PRODUCTS, LDC EXPORT PRICES ARE KEPT LOW THROUGH TARIFF AND NON-TARIFF BARRIERS. WHERE GOODS DO NOT COMPETE, PRODUCERS NEVERTHELESS FORCED TO KEEP PRICES DOWN. EXAMPLES INCLUDE TEA, COFFEE, COCOA, COPPER AND OTHER MINERALS AND, UNTIL RECENTLY, OIL AND PHOSPHATES. LABOR IN DEVELOPED COUNTRIES IS PAID 10 TO 20 TIMES LABOR IN LDC'S. ASSUMING ONE-THIRD OF PRODUCTION COSTS IS WAGES, LDC'S RECEIVE ANNUALLY \$250-630 BILLION LESS THAN THEY SHOULD.

2. PRINCIPAL ELEMENTS OF TRANSFER OF RESOURCES AND INCOME FROM UN-INDUSTRIALIZED TO INDUSTRIALIZED WORLD, HE ALLEGED, ARE:

- UNFAIR TARIFFS RESULTING IN LDC'S PAYING REVENUES TO DEVELOPED COUNTRIES.
- TARIFF STRUCTURE WHICH BECOMES PROGRESSIVELY UNFAVORABLE AS DEGREE OF PROCESSING OF LDC EXPORTS INCREASES.
- LDC'S ARE REQUIRED TO PAY EXHORBITANT INTEREST ON CAPITAL, AND EXCESSIVE PROFITS ON INVESTMENT, TO DEVELOPED COUNTRIES.
- THE INCREASE IN CREATION OF INTERNATIONAL RESERVES OF CURRENCY ALWAYS FAVORS DEVELOPED COUNTRIES.
- PRICES OF LDC RAW MATERIALS ARE UNFAIRLY DEPRESSED.
- OIL TRADE SURPLUS HAS BEEN SERVING DEVELOPED COUNTRIES. DEVELOPED COUNTRIES HAVE VIRTUAL MONOPOLY ON OCEAN AND AIR TRANSPORT.
- INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL PRACTICES ALL WORK IN FAVOR OF DEVELOPED COUNTRIES.
- MANAGEMENT OF FIRMS FROM DEVELOPED COUNTRIES OPERATING IN LDC'S PREFER TO MAKE PURCHASES FROM DEVELOPED COUNTRIES AT VERY HIGH PRICES.
- DEVELOPED COUNTRIES' EXCESSIVE PRICES FOR TECHNOLOGY
- THE EMIGRATION OF EDUCATED, SKILLED AND PROFESSIONAL MANPOWER FROM LDC'S TO DEVELOPED COUNTRIES.

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EM DEVELOPED COUNTRIES ARE DEPLETING LDC RESOURCES AT AN ALARMING RATE. NEVERTHELESS, TERMS OF TRADE ALWAYS HAVE BEEN AGAINST LDC'S. RECENT RISE IN COMMODITY PRICES (E.G. FERTILIZER, FOODGRAINS, AND CERTAIN OTHER ESSENTIALS) HAVE HURT MANY LDC'S. WASTE OF BOTH RENEWABLE AND NON-RENEWABLE RESOURCES IS FOLLY. CITING THE KORAN, HASAN SAID THERE ENOUGH IN THE WORLD FOR EVERYONE. HOWEVER, GREAT ENTERPRISES OPERATE FOR PROFIT, AND NOT FOR LDC'S BENEFIT.

INTERNATIONAL MONETARY SYSTEM IS IN DISARRAY. ANTAGONISM BETWEEN RICH AND POOR IS NATURAL AS POOR INCREASINGLY BELIEVE RICH HAVE BECME SO BY EXPORPRIATING FRUITS OF THEIR LABOR.

4. HASAN SUGGESTED LIBERAL RESCHEDULING OF LDC DEBTS. HE FULLY SUPPORTED CHINESE THEME OF SELF-RELIANCE, AND WENT ON TO SAY PAKISTAN REASSURED BY U.S. DETERMINATION TO BUILD FOOD RESERVES AND INCREASE FOOD AID. HE WELCOMED INITIATIVES OF IRAN, OPEC, SAUDI ARABIA AND THE PROPOSALS TO ESTABLISH KUWAIT DEVELOPMENT FUND, ARAB BANK AND FUND FOR AFRICA. HE EXPRESSED ENVY OF CENTRALLY PLANNED ECONOMIES THAT (CITING USSR STATEMENT) ENSURE PROPORTIONATE AND HARMONIOUS USE OF ALL RESOURCES AND WHICH HAVE NOT BEEN EFFECTED BY THE PRESENT CRISIS.

5. PAKISTAN, HE SAID, WILL SUPPORT ANY PROPOSAL LEADING TO AN ENDURING SOLUTION TO THE PROBLEM, BUT IMMEDIATE ASSISTANCE NEEDED FOR LDC'S HIT BY PRICE RISES OF OIL, FERTILIZER, WHEAT AND OTHER ESSENTIAL COMMODITIES. REFERRING TO TARIFFS, HE SAID TH

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